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TOP SECRET

## GENERAL

25X1

1. US plans reply to Soviet note on Trieste--The Department of State has advised US missions abroad of its conclusion that a reply to the Soviet note on Trieste of 20 April cannot be avoided. The Department explains that Soviet refusal to fix a date for future meetings on the Austrian treaty until a reply has been received to the Trieste note is the chief reason for the present decision. The Department also indicates it now shares the view of the British and the French that reiteration at this time of the 20 March 1948 declaration on Trieste (favoring return to Italy of the whole Territory of Trieste) will increase prospects for eventual success in Italian-Yugoslav negotiations regarding Trieste.

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